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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/029,636

12/18/2001

Richard Joseph Caballero

SBL0020C1US

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60975 7590 02/24/2009
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EXAMINER

AL HASHEMI, SANA A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2169

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

02/24/2009

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/029,636

Applicant(s)

CABALLERO ET AL.

Examiner

Sana Al-Hashemi

Art Unit

2169

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period **will** apply and **will** expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply **will**, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 January 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 27-49 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 27,30,31 and 41 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 28,29,32-40 and 42-49 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 1/21/09.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

This action is issued in response to amendment/RCE filed 1/21/08.

Claims 1-26 were canceled. Claim 27-49 were amended. No claims were added.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 1/21/09 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 27, 30-31, 41, are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Bowman-Amuah (Bowman hereinafter) US Patent No. 6,640,244 filed Aug. 31, 1999.

Regarding Claim 27, Bowman discloses a computer program product, comprising:

a data structure, wherein said data structure comprises an order processing system said order processing system comprises a complex object said complex object comprises a service profile, the service profile represents a complex asset (Fig. 31, 3102, Bowman), and said complex asset is associated with an account (Fig. 32, "order report writer", Bowman), a data manager configured to:

receive at least a portion of the service profile from an external server via an information network (Fig. 31, 3100, Bowman), and

generate a business object based on the portion of the service profile (Fig. 31, "Generated reports";

a transformation engine configured to generate at least a portion of the complex object based on the business object, wherein the complex object is stored in an asset table (Fig. 31, "report status table", Bowman); and

computer readable storage media, wherein said data structure, said data manager, and said transformation engine are encoded in said computer readable storage media (Fig. 30, Bowman).

Regarding Claim 30, Bowman discloses a computer program product wherein at least a portion of the information in the asset table is transferred to an order table when a new quote is created (Fig. 29, 2900, Bowman).

Regarding Claim 31, Bowman discloses a computer program product wherein at least a portion of the information in an order table is transferred to the asset table when an order is provisioned (Fig. 29, 2904, wherein the distribution corresponds to the provisioned, Bowman).

Regarding Claim 41, Bowman discloses a computer program product wherein the asset represents a product with a hierarchy of sub-products (Fig. 7, 702, 700, and 704, Bowman).

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 28-29, 32-40, and 42-49 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The prior art failed to disclose, teach or suggest the claimed subject matter an asset price adjusted to take into account discounts; a base price of the asset; a unique identifier of the asset; an identifier of an account that is billed for the asset; an identifier of an account at which the asset is provided; an identifier of an agreement under which the asset is provided; a status of the asset; a date that service started; a date that service ended; a price description; an identifier of a metering asset with which the asset is associated; and an absolute quantity of an item given a position of the item in an asset hierarchy, and wherein an action code is set to one of:

a value to indicate that the asset is active; a value to indicate that the asset has been deleted; and a value to indicate that the asset has been suspended as claimed in claims 28-29, and the claimed subject matter of a quote table representing offers to change the products and services provided to a customer, wherein the quote table comprises a plurality of: an identifier of an agreement under which the quote was made; an identifier of a metering asset with which this asset is associated; an absolute quantity of an item given a position of the item in an asset

hierarchy; an identifier of an account that is billed for the asset; an identifier of an account at which the asset is provided; an action code to indicate whether there is a change to the specified service item; a telephone number corresponding to these items; and a unique identifier of the asset as claimed in claims 32-40, and 42-49.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 27-49 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Point of Contact

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sana Al-Hashemi whose telephone number is 571-272-4013. The examiner can normally be reached on 8Am-4:30Pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Pierre Vital can be reached on 571-272-4125. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2169

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Sana Al-Hashemi/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2169
February 18, 2009